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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

ARMY review completed.

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REPORT

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REFERENCES:

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COUNTRY Poland

SUBJECT Miscellaneous Military Intelligence

DATE OF INFORMATION

PLACE ACQUIRED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION.

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TRAINING

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Infantry Tactical Training: approximately 40 hours total.

Obstacle course: twice per week for the entire course.

Political Training: 240 hours total for the course.

Drill and athletics: 320 hours for the entire course.

Chemical Training: 40 hours for the entire course.

Technical specialty of student: minimum of 640 hours for the course.

The tactical training consisted of lectures, problems in infantry field tactics, company and platoon formations, and behavior in the field. This block of hours was considered to be the basic training that the students of the school were to receive. It constituted the only hours in which the composition, structure, and mission of platoon and squad level units were taught. Lecture hours on the functions of these units were conducted and subjects such as signs and symbols, map reading, building field fortifications, deployment of platoon and squad during combat. Very little actual practical work in the field

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was done; only on a few occasions [redacted] have practical problems at which times trenches were dug and dummy field fortifications were erected. [redacted]

The various types of platoon and squad formations were described to the students at lectures, and then practical application of these formations and movements was carried out.

During the tactical training phase, students were instructed in the use of field expedients. Sanitation and personal hygiene were stressed.

The obstacle course consisted of a simulated combat course. Students crawled through wire entanglements and practiced use of squad and platoon formations under simulated combat conditions.

Political training consisted of lectures on various historical events in the Soviet Union and Poland, history of the Communist Party, history of the new Polish armed forces, historical biography of political leaders and various topics covering the daily political situation as it affected the Communist Party.

2. [redacted] the major part of the course was devoted to instructing the student in his military specialty. [redacted]

3. [redacted] the 12th Independent Air Squadron for Adjusting Artillery Fire

The only planned 25X1 schedule that was observed [redacted] was the mess schedule and political training schedule which each unit at the airfield maintained. The daily work schedule consisted of work assignments to mechanics and technicians. [redacted] 25X1

SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE

1. The major maintenance duties [redacted] were on the aircraft assigned to the unit. Daily servicing and repair maintained them in combat readiness at all times. 25X1
2. The 12th Squadron maintained a fuel storage area at the Wroclaw /N 51-06, E 17-02/ airfield. This storage area consisted of open bunkers, number and size unknown, in which the fuel was stored. [redacted] the fuel was stored in large steel drums, estimated to contain about 200 liters, which were used to refuel the aircraft. 25X1

A new fuel storage area was being constructed at the Wroclaw airfield. [redacted] it was to contain fuel for jets. The 3rd Fighter 25X1 Regt. had moved to the airfield and the old storage area was probably too small, or did not have the facilities, to store jet fuel. This storage area was to contain four large tanks (exact size unknown [redacted] built above ground. [redacted])

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MANPOWER

1. [redacted] in November 1951, the year class 1931 was called 25X1 for duty.

[redacted] the length of service required in the air force was three years. [redacted] selection for the air force was based on civilian job classification and educational standard.

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2. [redacted] the demobilization of men in the armed forces was done in accordance with supply and demand, in that if a man was a specialist, or a certain branch was short of personnel, extensions to the normal tour of duty were announced and no one was released. If a man was a specialist in fields in which replacements were difficult to obtain, he was offered a promotion on a temporary basis, with the promise that at the end of a certain time (exact length of time depending on need), he would be given a commission. If at the end of this period the man proved he was incapable, he would or would not have been released to the reserve. In the case of 25X1 air force personnel, it had been rumored that the term of service for inductees might be increased from three to four years.

3.

[redacted] physical examination: first one doctor checked [redacted] ears, nose, and an eye test which consisted of reading [redacted] numbered and lettered chart. 25X1 men with glasses were allowed to read the chart with their glasses on.

[redacted] After stripping 25X1 completely [redacted] a complete physical: pulse, teeth, body structure, and foot inspection. There was no blood or urine test. A doctor gave an oral quiz to each man to determine his mental stability. The examination was completed in one day and then each person went to a board of officers for questioning on his personal background. All of the men that took the examination [redacted] were sent to the air force. There were no deferments or rejections in this group. 25X1

MORALE

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1. The morale of the Polish Air Force was described as being very low. The younger men were not accustomed to the restrictions imposed on them by the military. From the time of induction to release from service, they were forced to lead a dull, routine existence, rigidly controlled, and with very little consideration given to the individual. A three-day pass or leave was a privilege extended only in the cases of extreme emergency, and in many cases passes or leaves were not given even then. Sickness in the family was not usually reason enough to get a leave.

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Passes were given out only on Saturdays and Sundays. The pass hours were from 1800 to 2400 on Saturday and from 1200 to 1800 or from 1800 to 2400 on Sunday. If a man had a pass on Saturday, he was usually not eligible for one on Sunday.

2. Political lectures and training lectures in the 12th Squadron were conducted daily from 0600 until 0800. The topics covered usually pertained to political news of the week, history of the Communist Party, Polish Air Force, or news items on conditions in Poland.

3. Food in the 12th Air Squadron, Wroclaw, was very poor. [redacted] the air force issued enough food to make up a good diet, but in most cases it was stolen before it reached the kitchen. Cooks saved choice cuts of meat for themselves or friends, and there was no interest in the preparation of food. Poor supervision of mess facilities caused shortages of food in the mess line. [redacted]

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[redacted] a man was entitled to 70 grams of meat per meal when meat was served, but by the time it reached the serving line each man was fortunate to get 30 to 40 grams.

4. [redacted] church services were not held at the air base in Wroclaw. However, there was nothing to prevent a person from going to church services in town on his own free time. The only restriction was that he was not given any special consideration on passes and had to wait his turn. Not many men in his unit went to church.

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5. [redacted] the air force technicians received more pay than ground force technicians of the same grade and rank.

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